Message Text

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SUBJECT: PROPOSED MOVE OF UN INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW

- BRANCH (UNCITRAL) TO VIENNA

REF: STATE 18212

1. EXTENT OF LIBRARY RESOURCES IN VIENNA FOR RESEARCH IN INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE TRADE LAW IS DIFFICULT TO ASCERTAIN. AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES IS, EMBASSY HAS BEEN TOLD, MATTER OF ONGOING INQUIRY BY UNCITRAL DIRECTOR VIS IN COOPERATION WITH GOA AND, TENTATIVELY, OCEANIA PUBLICATIONS, INC., OF DOBBS FERRY, NEW YORK. OCEANIA WOULD COMPLETE CATALOGUE OF UNCITRAL REQUIREMENTS ON BASIS OF WHICH AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES NEEDED CAN BE DETERMINED, AND JUSTICE MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE ASSURED TWO UNCITRAL INVESTIGATORS WHO RECENTLY VISITED VIENNA THAT NECESSARY LIBRARY RESOURCES WOULD BE SECURED AND FINANCED BY GOA.

2. JUSTICE MINISTRY OFFICIAL TOLD EMBASSY HE THOUGHT UNCITRAL VISITORS FOUND MORE LIBRARY RESOURCES IN VIENNA THAN THEY EXPECTED; NEVERTHELESS, HE, DIRECTOR OF FEDERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, AND EMBASSY'S OWN LEGAL ADVISOR ALL AGREE THAT DOCUMENTATION ON UNCLASSIFIED

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW IN VIENNA IS NOT "ABUNDANT" AND IS NOW DISPERSED IN SEVERAL LIBRARIES. MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND RESEARCH, HOWEVER, HAS DEVELOPED AUTOMATED SYSTEM FOR VIENNA'S RESEARCH LIBRARIES, WHICH SHOULD BE OPERATIONAL BY TIME UNCITRAL MOVES TO VIENNA.

3. IN VIEW OF ABOVE, EMBASSY BELIEVES IT PREMATURE EITHER

TO ASSUME THAT UNCITRAL'S MOVE TO VIENNA WOULD HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY ADVERSE EFFECT UPON ITS FUNCTIONING OR TO APPROACH UN SECRETARIAT AS PROPOSED IN REFTEL. EMBASSY WOULD ASSUME THAT ALL UN UNITS PROPOSED FOR MOVE TO VIENNA AS WELL AS INTERESTED PARTIES SUCH AS ABA WOULD - AND SHOULD - DIRECTLY INFORM UN SECRETARIAT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUBSTANTIVE IMPLICATIONS OF MOVES FOR THEIR OPERATIONS, AND THAT UN/SYG WOULD TAKE THESE INTO CONSIDERATION IN SCHEDULING MOVES AS WELL AS ANY POSSIBLE CUTTING OF UNITS FROM REMOVAL LIST. IN LATTER RESPECT. DEPARTMENT AND USUN SHOULD BE AWARE THAT UN/SYG TOLD AUSTRIAN JOURNALIST RECENTLY ("ARBEITER-ZEITUNG," JANUARY 21) THAT HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM FILLING DONAU PARK. HE SAID IAEA HAD JUST ASKED FOR USE OF ANOTHER TOWER (APPARENTLY ONE-HALF OF TOWER A2 WHICH IAEA HAD EARLIER DECLARED EXCESS TO ITS REQUIREMENTS) AND THAT EVEN TOWER UNIDO HAD NOT NEEDED (APPARENTLY TOWER U2) WOULD BE FULLY OCCUPIED. EMBASSY BELIEVES UN/SYG'S OPTIMISM ABOUT TOWER U2 MAY REFLECT EXPECTATION OF SOME EXPANSION OF UNIDO AS WELL AS POSSIBILITY THAT NEW UN-RELATED BODY MAY RESULT FROM 1979 VIENNA CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. WHATEVER THE CASE, EMBASSY BELIEVES THIS, TOO, NOW MILITATES AGAINST ALTERING USG'S POLICY OF RESPECTING SECGEN MANAGERIAL JUDGMENT ON MOVEMENT OF UN UNITS TO VIENNA. WOLF

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